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SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: REPORTS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES, CONFERENCES AND RELATED QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Statements of the programme budget implications of resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session

Note by the Secretariat*

* The present document is a provisional version of the statement of the administrative and programme budget implications of resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session. It will appear in final form as an addendum to the report of the Commission.

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INTRODUCTION

1. In the course of its fifty-first session, the Commission on Human Rights adopted four resolutions that have programme budget implications for the biennium 1994-1995. These resolutions relate to new mandates or existing mandates which have been significantly expanded in scope.

2. Before taking a decision on these resolutions, and in accordance with regulation 13.1 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission was informed through oral statements of the preliminary additional resources required to implement the new and expanded mandates. The Commission was also informed that the full programme budget implications statements would be submitted to the Economic and Social Council, in the context of the Council's consideration of the report of the Commission.

3. The present note contains statements of the programme budget implications of four resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session and is submitted for the consideration of the Council.

4. The programme budget implications of the resolutions are summarized in the table below.

Summary, by section, of the programme budget implications for the biennium 1994-1995 of resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session

Resolutions		Section 21 Human rights	Section 25E Conference services	Total
1995/17	The right to development	46 800	152 700	199 500
1995/28	International Decade of the World's Indigenous People		94 100	94 100
1995/32	Establishment of a working group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate draft declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/214 of 23 December 1994		165 200	165 200
1995/91	Situation of human rights in Rwanda	549 500		549 500
	TOTAL	596 300	412 000	1 008 300

I. PROGRAMME BUDGET IMPLICATION STATEMENTS

Resolution 1995/17. The right to development

A. Requests contained in the resolution

5. In paragraph 9 of resolution 1995/17, the Commission on Human Rights decided that the Working Group on the Right to Development would hold two sessions, each for a two-week period, in April and September 1995, respectively, to formulate its recommendations for submission to the Commission at its fifty-second session.

B. Relationship of requests to programme of work

6. The activities referred to above fall under programme 35 (Promotion and protection of human rights), subprogramme 2 (Elimination and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and vulnerable groups) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised (A/47/6/Rev.1).

7. They also fall under the following programme component and activities of section 21 (Human rights) of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

Subprogramme 2. Elimination and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and vulnerable groups

Activities: 1. Parliamentary services

(b) Technical services: servicing of the session of the Commission on Human Rights and sessions of the working groups and of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations.

C. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

8. In accordance with paragraph 9 of resolution 1995/17, the Working Group would hold two sessions, each for a period of two weeks, in April and September 1995, to formulate its recommendations for submission to the Commission at its fifty-second session. That constitutes one additional session with regard to the single annual session contemplated by the Commission at the time of the establishment of the Working Group, in 1993.

9. Accordingly, additional travel expenses and subsistence allowance, as well as conference services, for one additional meeting of 10 working days annually would be required.

D. Modifications required in the programme of work

10. No modification of the programme description is necessary.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

11. The estimated full cost of the above for the biennium is itemized as follows:

Section 21

	$
Travel and subsistence of eight experts	46 800

Section 25E

Conference-servicing costs

Meeting services (10 meetings, languages A,C,E,F,R,S)	61 800
Pre-session documentation (32 pages, languages E,F,S)	18 600
In-session documentation (60 pages, languages E,F,S)	33 800
Post-session documentation (32 pages, languages A,C,E,F,R,S)	36 200
Other requirements	2 300
Subtotal	152 700
Grand total	199 500

F. Potential for absorption

12. It will be recalled that pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/21, an additional annual session of the Working Group was held in 1994. The additional requirements of this additional session ($45,000) were met, at that time, from the existing appropriation.

13. As noted above, for 1995 the requirements related to the holding of one additional session are estimated at $46,800. These costs represent the net additional resources required for 1995 over and above the resources already allocated in the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 in connection with the Working Group. At this stage, it is not anticipated that these requirements could be absorbed within the provision under section 21 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

14. The conference-servicing costs relating to this draft resolution are dealt with in paragraph 49 below.

G. Indication of additional requirements

15. Should the Economic and Social Council decide to approve this resolution, it is estimated that additional requirements of $46,800 would arise under section 21 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

H. Contingency fund

16. With regard to the possible use of the contingency fund for the implementation of this resolution, see paragraph 48 below.

Resolution 1995/28. International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

A. Requests contained in the resolution

17. In paragraph 5 of resolution 1995/28, the Commission on Human Rights took note of the request of the General Assembly for the establishment of a unit within the Centre for Human Rights to support its activities related to indigenous people, in particular to plan, coordinate and implement activities for the Decade.

18. In paragraph 6 of the same resolution, the Commission also took note of the recommendation of the General Assembly that a second technical meeting on the planning of the Decade be convened immediately prior to the thirteenth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission and of the decision to consider at a later session the convening of meetings for planning and review purposes at appropriate intervals during the Decade.

B. Relationship of requests to programme of work

19. The activities referred to above fall under programme 35 (Promotion and protection of human rights), subprogramme 2 (Elimination and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and vulnerable groups) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised (A/47/6/Rev.1).

20. They also fall under subprogramme 2 (Elimination and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and vulnerable groups) of section 21 (Human rights) of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

C. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

21. With regard to paragraph 5 of the resolution, it will be recalled that pursuant to the recommendations of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, provisions have already been made in the 1994-1995 budget for two

additional temporary posts (one P-4 and one General Service) in order to assist in the coordination of the programme of activities for the World's Indigenous People.

22. In accordance with paragraph 6 of the resolution, it is envisaged that a second technical open-ended meeting of the Commission on Human Rights on the planning of the Decade be convened by the Centre for Human Rights on 17 and 18 July 1995, immediately prior to the thirteenth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations.

D. Modifications required in the programme of work

23. The description of the programme of work under subprogramme 2 of section 21 would be modified through the addition of a reference to "technical meetings on the planning of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People" in subparagraph (c), "Ad hoc expert groups ...", under "Activities: 1. Parliamentary services".

E. Additional requirements at full cost

24. The substantive servicing of the technical meeting would be provided by the Centre for Human Rights and its costs would be absorbed from existing resources of section 21 (Human rights) of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. The estimated full cost of conference-servicing to be provided to the Working Group is as follows:

Section 25E

Conference-servicing requirements (Geneva)	$
Meeting servicing (4 meetings: A,C,E,F,R,S)	18 300
Pre-session documentation (32 pages in A,C,E,F,R,S)	30 600
In-session documentation (10-15 pages in A,C,E,F,R,S)	14 600
Post-session documentation (32 pages in A,C,E,F,R,S)	30 600
Other requirements	1 000
Total	94 100

25. The conference-servicing costs related to this draft resolution are dealt with in paragraph 49 below.

Resolution 1995/32. Establishment of a working group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate

a draft declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/214 of 23 December 1994

A. Requests contained in the resolution

26. In paragraph 1 of resolution 1995/32, the Commission on Human Rights decided to establish, as a matter of priority and from within existing overall United Nations resources, an open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights with the sole purpose of elaborating a draft declaration, considering the draft contained in the annex to

resolution 1994/45 of 26 August 1994 of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, entitled draft "United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples" for consideration and adoption by the General Assembly within the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

27. In paragraph 3 of the same resolution, the Working Group was requested to meet for 10 working days at the earliest possible date in 1995.

B. Relationship of request to programme of work

28. The activities referred to above fall under programme 35 (Promotion and protection of human rights), subprogramme 2 (Elimination and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and vulnerable groups) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised (A/47/6/Rev.1).

29. They also fall under subprogramme 2 (Elimination and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and vulnerable groups) of section 21 (Human rights) of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

C. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

30. The Centre for Human Rights will organize an open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights, for 10 working days in the autumn of 1995.

D. Additional requirements at full cost

31. The substantive servicing of the Working Group will be provided by the Centre for Human Rights and its cost would be absorbed from existing resources of section 21 (Human rights) of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. The estimated full costs of conference-servicing to be provided to the Working Group is as follows:

Section 25E

Conference-servicing requirements (Geneva)	$
Meeting servicing (20 meetings: A,C,E,F,R,S)	130 700
Post-session documentation (32 pages in A,C,E,F,R,S)	30 000
Other requirements	4 500
Total	165 200

32. The conference-servicing costs related to this draft resolution are dealt with in paragraph 49 below.

Resolution 1995/91. Situation of human rights in Rwanda

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

33. In paragraph 19 of resolution 1995/91, the Commission on Human Rights decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur as set out in resolution S-3/1 of 25 May 1994, for an additional year, and requested the Special Rapporteur to make recommendations concerning situations in which technical assistance might be appropriate.

34. In paragraph 20 of the same resolution, the Secretary-General was requested to provide all necessary resources to the Special Rapporteur, taking into account the operational plan for the human rights field operation in Rwanda and the need to deploy a sufficient number of human rights field officers to assist the Special Rapporteur to fulfil his mandate.

35. In paragraph 21, the Secretary-General was requested to take appropriate steps to ensure adequate financial and human resources for the delivery of programmes of technical assistance and advisory services, especially in the field of the administration of justice as requested by the Government of Rwanda.

B. Relationship of requests to programme of work

36. The activities referred to in paragraphs 19 and 20 of the resolution fall under programme 35 (Promotion and protection of human rights), subprogramme 1 (Implementation of international instruments and procedures), of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised (A/47/6/Rev.1).

37. They also fall under the following programme component and activities of section 21 (Human rights) of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

Activities: 1. International cooperation

(a) Settlement of disputes, special missions, good offices, fact-finding, emergency and humanitarian relief services, legal services;

(b) Assisting special rapporteurs, representatives or other designees (thematic and country-oriented) dealing with human rights violations and investigations or fact-finding into reported situations and cases and reporting to the Commission on Human Rights or the General Assembly.

C. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

38. During the course of 1995, the Special Rapporteur would undertake four trips to Geneva, each for a period of five working days, to hold consultations at the Centre for Human Rights, to review documentation and other pertinent materials received, to meet representatives of Governments as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and to prepare his or her reports. He will also travel to New York in November for five working days to present his report to the General Assembly.

39. The Special Rapporteur, accompanied by one staff member of the Centre for Human Rights, would undertake three visits to the area (Rwanda and neighbouring countries), each for a period of 10 days.

40. Provisions would be made for the continuation of the resources approved in 1994 for the substantive servicing of the Special Rapporteur, which includes a team of six human rights field officers stationed in Rwanda and two locally recruited secretaries.

41. The requirements related to the implementation of a comprehensive programme for technical cooperation in the field of human rights, including advisory services in the administration of justice, are expected to be met from extrabudgetary resources. To this end, an appeal has recently been launched by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for contributions to the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights.

D. Additional requirements at full cost

42. The estimated full costs of the above are itemized as follows:

A. Travel of the Special Rapporteur	$
Four trips to Geneva for consultations at the Centre for Human Rights (5 working days each)	14 000
One trip to New York to present report to the General Assembly (5 working days)	4 000
Three field missions to Rwanda and neighbouring countries (10 working days each)	13 000
General operating expenses (estimated at $500 per field mission)	1 500
Total (A)	32 500
B. Travel of staff from the Centre for Human Rights	
Three field missions by one staff member	17 000

to accompany the Special Rapporteur (10 working days each)	
C. Field operation	
General temporary assistance: 10 work-months for six officers at the P-3 level and two at the General Service level	490 000
Miscellaneous	10 000
Total (C)	500 000
Grand total	549 500

E. Potential for absorption

43. At its forty-ninth session, the General Assembly approved additional resources in the amount of $539,700 under section 21 (Human rights) of the 1994-1995 programme budget to finance the additional requirements resulting from Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/S-3/1, which was endorsed by the Economic and Social Council at its special session in June 1994 in decision 1994/223 concerning the appointment of the Special Rapporteur on Rwanda.

44. The above resources cover the requirements for the period July 1994 until the end of February 1995. Therefore, no resources have been budgeted in the 1994-1995 programme budget to finance the additional requirements of $549,500 related to the extension of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for one additional year. At this stage, it is not anticipated that these requirements could be absorbed within the provisions under section 21 (Human rights) of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

F. Indication of additional requirements

45. Should the Economic and Social Council decide to approve this resolution, it is estimated that additional requirements of $549,500 would arise under section 21 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

G. Contingency fund

46. With regard to the possible use of the contingency fund for the implementation of this resolution, see paragraph 48 below.

II. SUMMARY

47. The requests contained in the resolutions referred to above would give rise to additional requirements totalling $596,300 under section 21 (Human rights) and $412,000 under section 25E (Conference services) of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

Requirements of the Centre for Human Rights (Section 21)

48. Under the procedure approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987, a contingency fund is established each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under the same procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed resources available from the contingency fund, these activities can be implemented only through redeployment of resources from low priority areas or modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities will have to be deferred until a later biennium. No activity has been identified for termination, deferral, curtailment or modification under section 21 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 to accommodate the new mandates. Should it not prove possible to meet the costs relating to the new mandates or extended from the contingency fund, the implementation of the resolutions and decisions may have to be

postponed, as provided for in the guidelines for the use and operation of the contingency fund adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987.

Conference-servicing costs

49. As stated above, the requirements for conference-servicing costs amount to $412,000. This amount is based on the theoretical assumption that no part of the conference-servicing requirements would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity under section 25E of the approved programme budget, and that additional resources would be required for temporary assistance for meetings. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity needs to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can be determined only in the light of the calendar of conferences for 1994-1995. However, it should be noted that the 1994-1995 level of resources for temporary assistance for meetings was estimated on the basis of previous experience to accommodate not only meetings known at the time of budget preparation but also meetings that would be authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences in the biennium 1994-1995 were consistent with the pattern of meetings in past years. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional resources would be required under section 25E of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.